

RED CROSS FUND DRIVE IN TORRANCE AT HALF MARK, DECLARES LEWIS

Torrance has met its 50 per cent quota for the 1945 annual Red Cross fund drive, and teams still are going strong and promise to put the campaign over the top to a total exceeding the \$32,500 quota, according to Harry B. Lewis, fund drive chairman for this year. Geographic committees in the field, under the Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, are meeting fine success, and the various other teams likewise find a ready response to the drive to finance, at \$6 a second, the short period of Red Cross activity which the Torrance quota will fill.

Praising his committees, teams, majors, captains and workers, Chairman Lewis appealed for the local drive to go "over the top" this week, despite the fact that the Red Cross has, set March 15, today, as the time to meet the half-way mark.

"We are at 51 per cent today," Lewis said.

In asking for 100 per cent subscription in the next seven days, he said:

"What happens to the soldier who's just one second too late, seeking cover? What happens to the submarine that's one second too late, starting its dive? What happens to the wounded man, when help reaches him just one second too late? In the final analysis, the difference between life and death is a matter of less than one second. For six dollars—and for one second—you and I can become the sponsor of world-wide activities. For that tiny, but important moment, we can support all the blood donor stations throughout the nation—we can sponsor the errands of mercy on every continent of the earth. We can bring that fleeting smile to the lips of an American seaman in Osaka, and to an American Seabee in Milan. One second? That's enough time for a radiogram to circle the globe—bringing news to some distraught mother that her son, reported missing, is alive and well—and sends his love—from a prisoner of war camp—through the facilities of the Red Cross. Do you want MORE than that for six dollars?"

Van Dyke, Acting As Samaritan, Attacked, Injured

Philip Van Dyke, secretary of Longren Aircraft Co., was reported by his office yesterday to be confined to his home with injuries suffered in an unprovoked attack upon him shortly after midnight Tuesday.

According to information at his office, Van Dyke acted as a "Good Samaritan" on Wilshire Blvd. en route to his home from an engagement, and picked up several sailors, to give them a "lift" to town.

Van Dyke said that all was well and that he was traveling down Wilshire as he does several times a week, when all became blank. He recovered consciousness some time later, in his car and in a pool of blood. He was not robbed, nor thrown from his car, he declared.

Appearing at his office yesterday morning, he was sent home under care of a doctor.

County League Of Cities to Meet Here Tonight

The Los Angeles County League of California Cities will hold its monthly meeting in Torrance Civic Auditorium tonight, and a dinner at 7 p. m. will open the affair.

All local organizations were invited by Mayor W. H. Tolson, chairman of the affair, to send representatives to the meeting. Supervisor R. V. Darby will be master of ceremonies, and Mayor Tolson will be official host.

Hector Haight, director for Southern California of the Reconstruction Finance Corp., parent organization to the Defense Plant Corporation, will speak on "Disposal of Government Properties." Geoffrey Morgan will speak on "Shoreline and Beaches."

The high school band will entertain, and the American Legion auxiliary will have charge of the service.

JOHN REYNOLDS HOME

Private John Reynolds arrived Wednesday from Camp Bowie, Texas, for a 14-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Reynolds, of 1956 Plaza Del Amo.



EXPECTED HOME . . . Anticipating the return of her husband, Lt. Col. William E. Keefe, from overseas service, Mrs. Keefe, the former Lu Lee, arrived Monday evening from her home in Clovis, N.M. With her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Keefe of 2259 Torrance Blvd., she is anxiously awaiting confirmation of his arrival in the United States.

Robert Fenton Dies at Leyte, Parents Told

Robert Fenton, 29, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Fenton of 1679 West 25th st., Harbor City, died at Leyte, Feb. 21, after being wounded in action on a small Philippine island in the San Bernardino Starite, the Army informed the parents last Monday.

A staff sergeant, the Harbor City soldier was through the Bougainville campaign and wrote many cheery letters home when there.

He was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Fenton. He attended Narbonne High school here before entering Compton Junior College and was in the service for 34 months.

Bus Department February Profit Reaches \$3,000

Torrance bus department made an estimated profit of about \$3,000 during the month of February, according to a report submitted to the City Council by C. Z. Ward, manager of the city's transportation system.

Income from the bus lines was \$9,833.96 for the 28-day month of February. Expenses, including interest and depreciation, amounted to \$6,750, leaving a net profit for the taxpayers of \$3,083.96 for the month's operation.

On the local lines alone, serving Torrance, Lomita, Walteria, Harbor City and Harbor Hills, the five and 10 cent fares amounted to \$1352 for the month. The buses traveled 27,120 miles in February.

New Equipment Is Purchased

The City of Torrance Tuesday night decided to purchase a 600-gallon two wheel asphalt maintenance distributor at a cost not to exceed \$2,300. The bid of Brown-Bevis Co. was accepted, the only one submitted.

The city also appropriated \$1300 to buy a four-wheeler trailer to haul city tractors from place to place.

Chief of Police John Stroth was authorized to proceed with purchase of a 1942 De Soto sedan for \$1766, turning in a Plymouth for \$866, and to make application for another used car.

Rezoning and Electrical Code Approved

Rezoning of property on the southwest side of Cravens ave. from El Prado to Torrance Blvd. to permit construction of commercial buildings was provided in Ordinance 363 adopted by the City Council Tuesday for the first reading.

The council accepted the recommendations of the planning commission which refused City Engineer G. M. Jain's proposal that a six-foot high solid wall be built at the side and rear of each building. The ordinance will provide, however, for plastering of the rear of all buildings not constructed of finish materials.

Several new buildings are proposed for Cravens ave. for the city's rapidly expanding commercial district.

The council also adopted Ordinance 361, providing a uniform electrical code for the city based on the Pacific Coast Electrical Conference recommendations, and Ordinance 362, regulating the sale and disposal of electrical devices and appliances. They were adopted for final reading.

Also adopted were Resolutions 1708 authorizing the city to file for state aid for civilian defense, and 1709, providing for reductions of water rates for victory gardens of 500 square feet and over.

City Attorney J. E. McCall and City Engineer Jain were asked to check the sufficiency of the Torrance garbage and refuse disposal ordinances and make recommendations for modernizing them.

Woman's Club Carnival to Be Held Saturday

Multiple attractions now are ready for the gala Torrance Woman's Club Spring Carnival event which will open at 4:00 o'clock Saturday afternoon, March 17, in Torrance Woman's Club clubhouse, 1422 Engracia ave.

Among the novel attractions are a complete Japanese parachute, captured at New Guinea and offered for exhibit by Mrs. Genevieve Herwer, of National Supply Co., and a metal German eagle plaque with a 27-inch wingspread, recently captured from Nazi officers E.T.O. quarters.

A Punch and Judy show will be presented from 4:30 to 5:30 p. m. and from 7:00 to 9:00 p. m., by Mrs. William Scholl, den mother and Cubs of Den 2, sponsored by First Methodist church.

A handsome 100% wool blanket and a 20-piece set of southern pottery will be given away during the evening.

Among the contributions which have been graciously presented to the clubwomen is a \$5.00 merchandise order from Ideal Ranch Market in which George W. Chapman, co-owner, expressed his good wishes. Another contribution is a hard-to-find alarm clock, a gift of Torrance Pharmacy.

Mrs. R. R. Smith, president and Mrs. J. H. Moore, ways and means chairman, expressed gratification with the cooperation they have received from all who have been asked to assist with the affair.

Gift Shop Offerings
Hand embroidered linens, aprons, blouses and other articles will be sold and there will be best sellers and other books available at the carnival book stall.

A highlight of the carnival will be "B-I-N-G-O," with prizes! Fortune telling, grab bags, white elephant booths and fish ponds will also be featured. There will be booths selling home made candy, de luxe hamburgers, chili beans and other delectable foods.

Tickets for adults may be secured from members on the door for 25 cents; children's tickets are 10 cents. Everyone is invited.

James Cook Sues City for Injury in Bus Accident

James G. Cook, guardian for Rita Cook, has sued the City of Torrance for some \$39,000 for injuries received in a bus accident about a year ago. The City Council rejected Cook's claim, and referred the matter to the insurance carriers for adjustment.

SYNTHETIC RUBBER INDUSTRY HAS BRIGHT FUTURE, SAYS GOODYEAR VICE PRESIDENT

The synthetic rubber industry centered in Torrance does not appear to be any more over-expanded than many an older industry, and its present prospects for a 50 per cent competition with natural rubber are good, Dr. R. P. Dinsmore, vice president of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., told Southern California members of the American Chemical Society at the Elks Temple in Los Angeles Friday night.

He predicts an increase of civilian tire allotments by June, as well as "all the tires" civilians need within this year. Dinsmore's optimism is based on his belief that a new method in the production of synthetic rubber will increase output of civilians tires.

The technical expert is here to put the method into operation in the Torrance synthetic plant.

Dinsmore further believes that synthetic rubber "should give

Lt. Eldene Paige Never Doubted Rescue Would Come, She Declares

"We never doubted that rescue would come. Every day we told one another that it would be 'next week.' When we actually heard the bombardment of Manila last October, we were positive it would be 'next month.'"

It is as simple as that, says Lieutenant (jg) Eldene Paige, NC, to keep up your spirits through three years of imprisonment and privation in a Japanese internment camp.

Miss Paige, one of 11 Navy nurses freed from the Los Banos prison camp 60 miles south of Manila by American parachute troops and Filipino guerrillas, arrived in San Francisco on her way home for leave. She will spend her leave with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Paige, of 25926 Cayuga st., Lomita.

The eleven Navy nurses, who originally had been stationed at Cavite Naval base, were sent to Santo Tomas prisoner of war

camp when the Japs invaded Manila in January of 1942. In May of 1943 they, two civilian nurses, and 800 male internees were sent to prepare an agricultural settlement at Los Banos for a new prison camp. Los Banos eventually had more than 2,000 inmates.

The eleven nurses kept busy at regular hospital tasks—everything from infected cuts to major operations and maternity cases—and that helped a lot, Miss Paige recalls. Everyone also had little work details in the kitchens or the camp gardens, and left over time could be spent sewing or attending some of the classes organized in the camp.

At first they were allowed to have Filipino newspapers and magazines. When these were cut off, they knew it must be because the news was bad for the Japanese, and it rekindled their hopes for a speedy rescue.

The nurses improvised and managed to make inadequate medical supplies do, but toward the end of their internment "practically everybody" had beri beri due to diet deficiency. That was known as the "bad period" of Los Banos.

"We got rice twice a day. For long periods we had no salt to cook with."

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Conscience Hurts, Diamond, Money Returned Here

In a recent flurry of conscience-driven people in this area, several articles were returned to their rightful owners. While reason for the action has not readily been ascertained, the results have been good.

Harry Abramson, of the National Home Supply, received an unset diamond, valued at \$25. This stone was sent in a letter postmarked locally, unsigned and obviously disguised. The enclosed note said, "I am sending this in restitution for a wrong that I committed." Very probably it was said, the party who sent the note and diamond had taken something from the store and was sorry that he or she had committed this act.

In another case, George Chapman of the Ideal Ranch Market and Carsonmart, was handed a dollar by a man and was told that about six months ago this party had taken 70 cents worth of seeds and had not paid for them. The man was obviously extremely serious and sorry, apologized to Chapman for not returning the money sooner, turned around, walked out and has not been seen since.

Willett and Gilbert to Take Physical Exams

Torrance may soon lose to the armed forces its city judge and a councilman.

Judge Otto B. Willett and Councilman C. M. Gilbert both received their notices to appear for physical examination on March 24.

Jail Break Here Foiled, Youth Held to Answer

Torrance Police Department was relieved of a would-be bad one yesterday morning when City Judge Otto B. Willett bound over to Superior Court, George Cox, 18, of Lomita, charged with grand theft, auto, and attempted escape. When arrested by Torrance police, he was out on bail on a previous grand theft, auto, charge in San Pedro.

According to reports from the police department, young Cox requested of Officer A. K. Hill an opportunity to "clean up." Granted, the youth escaped through a window of the wash room only after thinking that he had securely confined Hill by manipulating locks. Hill soon got out and gave chase, with drawn side arms. He found Cox under a car, trying to hide.

This led to a search of the city jail tank and other officers found a quantity of self-styled tools and implements which Cox had made, apparently to use in escape or attack on his keepers. One was an ice pick type of wire which could have been used in a stabbing and another was a back saw made from a table knife. Many locks were tampered with, and in several instances it was necessary to burn them off the steel doors to gain access and repair them, it was declared.

Police officers agreed that the boy had received "good" experience somewhere, and City Judge Willett denied the defense attorney's motion to dismiss the attempted escape charge.

Conner Heads V.F.W. for Coming Year

Postmaster C. Earl Conner has been elected commander of Torrance Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at a meeting last week.

Miss Willett, installed jointly with Mrs. Conner, president of the V. F. W. auxiliary, in a ceremony in Civic Auditorium on April 12.

David C. Llewellyn was elected first vice commander; James Brodie, second vice commander; Clarence E. Youngken, chaplain; Mrs. Conner, president of the V. F. W. auxiliary, in a ceremony in Civic Auditorium on April 12.

Commander Conner appointed Lester E. Stanley as officer of the day; George T. Spaulding as adjutant; Palmer as quartermaster, and James G. Caldwell as service officer.

Caldwell is a member of the Torrance Veterans Service Committee, representing the local Selective Service Board.

Joel Hagberg Heads City Workers Union

Joel Hagberg has been elected president of the State County and Municipal Workers Local No. 360, composed of Torrance City employees.

J. Cameron was named first vice-president; Sam Shepherd, second vice-president; Walter Spence, financial secretary; J. J. Benner, chief steward; James Polston, sergeant at arms.

The officers were installed by Retiring President Ernie Treloar at the regular meeting March 8.

The membership voted to pay for two seconds for the Red Cross out of union funds, or \$12. Individual members will report their donations later.

At the next Blood Bank, March 30, President Hagberg announced that the members of the union will take up all vacancies on the reservation list.

CONSTRUCTION OF WATER DEPARTMENT WAREHOUSE IS AUTHORIZED BY COUNCIL

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett was instructed by the City Council Tuesday night to call for bids for the construction of a 3000-foot warehouse building for Municipal Water District No. 1, as the first phase of a city building program which will extend well into the post-war period. The new building to be constructed at the pumping plant north of Torrance Blvd. on Elm ave. will be 40x50 feet in size, and will cost an estimated \$7,500. It will include a valve and fitting room, work area, tool room and other facilities, and funds are on hand in the water company for the work.



S/SGT. A. J. LAW

Sergeant Law, War Prisoner, Is Released

Staff Sergeant Arthur J. Law, 35, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Law, of 1733 Cabrillo ave., a prisoner of war in Germany since August 14, has been released, according to information contained in a telegram received by the parents from their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Eleanor Law, of Detroit.

Whether or not he was released by Allied forces over-running Germany was not revealed in the telegram, but this is the assumption.

Sergeant Law was reported missing on Aug. 14, and the members of the family held out hopes that he would be found or that he was taken prisoner rather than killed in action.

The sergeant has been in the service for two and one half years, and formerly worked at National Supply Co.

The sergeant's family here received four prisoner of war messages from him while he was interned by the Germans.

Communities Back Alondra Park Project

Announcement that Los Angeles County would proceed at once with plans for developing Alondra Park as a recreational area, made by Supervisor Ray Darby, has met with favorable reaction in Gardena and Torrance. Supervisor Darby stated that the county would spend \$40,000 on Alondra Park between now and July 1.

Darby proposed that various organizations in Torrance, Gardena, Lawndale and other communities adjacent to Alondra might be interested in a tree planting program at the park similar to one that was staged at Centinela Park in Inglewood. The organizations of that city planted groups of trees and appropriate ceremonies were held.

The supervisor suggested that such a program be worked out with the affair arranged for some time in May instead of Arbor day. By that time, he pointed out, the county expects to have the park irrigation system sufficiently developed to adequately care for the trees.

Secretary Pat MacDonnell, of Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce, approved Darby's suggestion and at the next chamber of commerce directors meeting it will be presented for approval of the board. It is believed that a number of local organizations would like to be represented in the beautification program for the park, which when completed will mean much to Gardena Valley as a recreational center MacDonnell said.

It is also understood that the county council is to proceed on a condemnation proceeding which will permit the county to widen the streets on both the north and south sides of the park.

As a post-war program the county expects to improve the park with baseball diamonds, scout camps, swimming pools, a golf course, picnic grounds and various other features.

Mayor W. H. Tolson of Torrance long has eyed the Alondra park area as a logical place for recreational and educational development, and even suggested the establishment of a junior college there by the communities involved.

ENSIGN VISITS

Ensign William Haworth, stationed at San Diego, spent the weekend with his cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Jones, of 1915 Andree ave.

William Stanger, manager of the water district, announced earlier this year that he planned construction of this building and another structure at the rear of the water company office on Cravens.

Also the city authorized inclusion of expansion of the Public Library in its postwar building program. The present quarters are too small to handle the traffic at the library.

Also included will be a store room for janitors' and electrical supplies at the rear of the Chamber of Commerce building occupied for the duration of the war by the American Red Cross.

City Clerk Bartlett suggested that a basement for storage of permanent records, and a vault, at the City Hall, also be considered.

City Engineer G. M. Jain was authorized to proceed with plans for including in the postwar program the widening, extension and improvement of Western ave. from 174th st. to the city limits at Lomita; improvement of Sepulveda Blvd. from Western ave. to Hawthorne Blvd.; widening and resurfacing of Arlington ave.; extension of Plaza del Amo to Western ave.; resurfacing of Western ave. west of Crenshaw Blvd. and improvement through the high school grounds. State matching funds of about \$12,000 are available to the city for these plans and for acquisition of rights-of-way.

Council Plans Rubbish Dump At Walteria

J. A. Cassidy has proposed that he establish a refuse dump in an abandoned gravel pit on the Western ranch, in or near Walteria, for the purpose of dumping sludge, refuse, combustible and other materials, and it appears that he will be given permission to do this. In a communication to the City Council Tuesday, he said he would fence the area, but would not allow continuous burning in the dump. He said he would not permit dumping of garbage or material causing odors.

Walteria Civic Organization protested establishment of any dump there, and several other protests have been entered, but apparently they are going unheeded. The matter was held over for further study.

County Will Pay Heavily on New Sewers

County Sanitation District No. 5 will pay for 48 per cent of the cost of installing a 21-inch sewer line through the 203rd st. Public district, providing the cost is not over \$30,000, it was announced at the City Council meeting Tuesday.

The balance, or 52 per cent, would be borne by the property owners in an assessment district. This represents the county's contribution to the project offered to induce the city to build the 21-inch line instead of an eight-inch line as previously proposed.

There were no protests to the resolution proposing the assessment district Tuesday night, but the hearing was continued again until the next regular meeting.

Purchase of Palos Verdes Park Considered

Approximately 7400 acres of rolling hillsides, ocean front property, part of Rancho Palos Verdes, has been offered to Los Angeles county, at \$225 per acre, according to Supervisor Raymond V. Darby. A proposal that the county acquire the land for park development will be placed before the board of supervisors soon, Darby said.

The proposal is in line with the stated objective of public officials to acquire for public use all the ocean frontage possible, Darby added.